

HEALTH

Viral Hepatitis C and D

1. Hepatitis C

Disease Spread

Primarily through contact with infected blood; less commonly, through sexual contact and childbirth.

People at Risk

Injection drug users, hemodialysis patients, health care workers, people who have sex with an infected person or multiple sex partners, infants born to infected mothers and people who received a transfusion of blood or blood products before July 1992 or clotting factors made before 1987.

Prevention

There is no vaccine for hepatitis C the only way to prevent the disease is to reduce the risk of exposure to the virus.

Treatment

Drug treatment with alpha interferon or combination treatment with interferon and the drug ribavirin.

2. Hepatitis D

Disease Spread

Through contact with infected blood. This disease occurs only in people who are infected with hepatitis B.

People at Risk

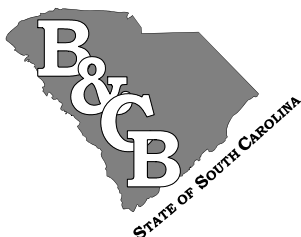
Anyone infected with hepatitis B.

Prevention

Immunization against hepatitis B for those not already infected. Avoiding exposure to infected blood infected blood.

Treatment

Drug treatment with alpha interferon.



STATE HEALTH PLAN PREVENTION PARTNERS
South Carolina State Budget and Control Board
Office of Insurance Services-Insurance Benefits Management
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